

Appl. No. : **10/033,371**
Filed : **October 19, 2001**

REMARKS

With this amendment, Claims 18-19, 22-24, 27, 32-33, 35-53, 57-58, and 63-72 are pending in the present application. Claims 18-19, 22-24, 27, 32-33, 35-48, 52, and 63-72 have been allowed. Claims 49-51, 53 and 57 have been amended, and Claims 54, 59-62 have been canceled. Claims 1-17, 20-21, 25-26, 28-31, and 55-56 were canceled in previous amendments. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the canceled claims or the scope of the previous, unamended claims at a later date.

Rejected Claims

The Examiner has rejected Claims 53-54, and 58-61 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Welch, U.S. Publication No. 2003/0023262 ("Welch"). In addition, the Examiner has rejected Claims 49 and 62 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Welch in view of Van Tassel, et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,689,150 ("Van Tassel").

During a personal Interview conducted between the Examiner and the Applicant on July 8, 2004, the priority of the Applicant's rejected claims was discussed, and agreement was reached that the parent application provided support for amended Claims 49 and 53, thus antedating Welch. Applicant therefore submits that Claims 49 and 53 as presently amended as well as dependent Claim 58 are now in condition for allowance. In order to expedite prosecution, Claims 54 and 59-62 have been canceled without prejudice. Applicant reserves the right to pursue these claims at a later date.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's indicated allowance of Claims 18-19, 22-24, 27, 32-33, 35-48, 52, and 63-72, and the allowability of Claims 50, 51 and 57. Claims 50, 51 and 57 have been amended into independent form, including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, and therefore are in condition for allowance as well.

Appl. No. : 10/033,371
Filed : October 19, 2001

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the attorney of record at the number indicated below if any issues require clarification.


Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 7-23-09

By: _____


Sabing H. Lee
Registration No. 43,745
Attorney of Record
Customer No. 20,995
(949) 760-0404

AMEND

H:\DOCS\AIK\AIK-1907.DOC
071604